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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: NPIC Position Paper on NPIC Providing Field  
Readout Photographic Interpretation Teams

1. When a field readout is directed <sup>by the USIB</sup> on selected nationally programmed photographic reconnaissance missions Definition: Nationally programmed photographic reconnaissance missions are those conducted by the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in response to the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) requirements. 7 the Director of the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) should be responsible for ~~providing~~ <sup>and for providing the field</sup> the field readout photographic interpretation team. These efforts would be directed to the preparation of immediate photographic interpretation reports and cable transmission to theater and ZI recipients under identical ~~priority~~ <sup>precedence</sup>. properly/

2. The above statement should be incorporated in the NSCID #8.

3. Details of operating such a team should be worked out by the Director of NPIC with ~~such appropriate agencies as~~ NRO, DIA, and CIA. These details would encompass, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

a. Provision by NRO of basic guidance on national plans (e.g., Rates of anticipated sorties, etc.) which will effect the efforts of the NPIC field readout team.

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*film processing*

b. Designation of anticipated overseas facilities by the NRO required in support of the National Reconnaissance Program. DIA should make arrangements with appropriate military commands for such facilities and support (e.g., communications, security, etc.) required by the NPIC field readout team for the period of operation.

c. ~~Provision by~~ NRO <sup>should provide</sup> of timely mission alerting information <sup>to NPIC, and the overseas film processing facility.</sup> as required.

d. ~~Provision by~~ NRO <sup>should provide</sup> of the mission track as soon as practicable <sup>to NPIC.</sup>

e. ~~Provision by~~ NRO <sup>should provide</sup> of technological assistance and quality standards for photographic processing to the overseas film processing facility <sup>to</sup> meet optimum exploitation needs of the NPIC field readout team.

f. ~~Provision by~~ COMOR <sup>should provide</sup> of the current listings of established USIB reconnaissance requirements <sup>to NPIC</sup> ~~(This will enable NPIC to provide each field readout team with necessary background data on COMOR targets.)~~

4. Of prime importance is recognition that local command prerogatives be left intact. No infringement would be made

upon any command. The NPIC field readout team would be deployed *only* as appropriate to provide expeditious readout of the selected *Nationally* programmed photographic reconnaissance missions.   
→ *by NPIC.*

5. A typical NPIC field readout team would be composed and outfitted as follows:

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a. Six to twelve NPIC personnel depending on the scope of the planned effort. All teams would include at least one Research Analyst <sup>to provide</sup> ~~in the~~ "all-source" collateral ~~concept of proper~~ support to the PI's.

b. All PI's selected would have appropriate skilled backgrounds. (e.g., missile, electronics, AE, etc.)

c. Each PI will have a personal "fly-away" kit to include, but not limited to: field light table, stereo microscope, 7X-12X tube magnifier, slide rule, scales, geo/UTM grids, etc.

d. All teams would be provided with selected "all source" <sup>collateral</sup> ~~backup~~ materials such as:

(1) Support Documents, Target Chart Plots, Target Briefs, (SEA, China/NK, China/India Border), and Master Target Lists.

(2) PI Keys (Air, Naval, Ground, Missile, Electronics, AE, Industrial, etc.)

(3) Data Base Materials including mosaics, target books, target plots, and reporting procedures/criteria (IPIR/SITSUM).

6. It should be noted from the above that the degree of sophistication in field exploitation is minimized commensurate with current procedures and field conditions. NPIC, however, should budget immediately to develop improved hardware, and

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inaugurate research for long range planning on a self-sufficient integrated ~~processing and~~ readout system.

7. The foregoing NPIC position is based upon exploitation, management and analytical procedures developed and utilized both at NPIC and in the field over the past many years. These procedures and techniques have been the basis for the NPIC's success in providing ~~optimum~~ readout of national importance. NPIC's experienced personnel, equipment, planning, coordination, scan/reporting techniques, <sup>"all source" collateral,</sup> ~~backup,~~ and report processing and handling criteria <sup>should be used to optimize</sup> ~~will provide a maximum guarantee~~ of field readout success.

8. Although NPIC is currently prepared to send a team to the field, such action would have an effect on current operations at NPIC. Therefore establishment <sup>of</sup> ~~on~~ an NPIC state-of-readiness to provide teams as required will necessitate additional manpower and funds. Based upon <sup>providing one team continuously overseas, fifteen</sup> ~~current estimates~~ twenty-four additional positions should be added to the T/O, and \$\_\_\_\_\_ should be added to ~~additional funds~~ the NPIC budget. Additional funds should be added for <sup>development and testing</sup> ~~research~~ as noted in paragraph 6 above. This will enable NPIC to provide the manpower to staff field readout teams. It should be emphasized that readout teams will be made up from with<sup>in</sup> the NPIC organization on a case-by-case basis. Thus selection of the best individuals for a particular field readout is possible. When not engaged in field exploitation activities, full utilization of these personnel will be made within the existing NPIC structure.

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